

words *more, door, you, your, yours, etc.*, about right when in fact they say *maw, daw, yaw, yaw, yaws, etc.*

This most discouraging fact prevents us all from making any attempt at the compilation of a text-book of bird songs for popular use; and there are not phoneticians, musicians and elocutionists enough among bird students to justify the publication of a work of that kind.

Therefore, so far as I can see now, the best way for all bird students to learn bird songs, besides identifying the birds themselves, is to visit the wilds in company with experts. This, of course, "knocks out" the idea of notation, except so far as one may devise a scheme for his own private use.—EWING SUMMERS, *Washington, D. C.*

**The Type Locality of *Brachyramphus craverii*.**—The Island of Natividad, off the west coast of Lower California, has been considered as the type locality of *Brachyramphus craverii*. The species was originally described by Salvadori as coming from this island, and in his original description he refers to the account that Craveri has left of his visit to the Island in 1865. He speaks of it as a low island where were groups of Cormorants looking in the distance like platoons of soldiers. He says that the soil of this island was sandy, and that all of the island not occupied by the Cormorants was excavated by the Murrelets for their nests.

Anthony visited this island of Natividad in 1900, and found the Cormorants there, as described by Craveri, and found the ground honeycombed, but these burrows all belonged to the Black-vented Shearwater (*Puffinus opisthomelas*), but not a single Murrelet of any species was found on the Island, nor has any one ever found *Brachyramphus craverii* anywhere along the western coast of Lower California.

Craveri gives the latitude as 27° 50' 12" N., which is not at all the latitude of Natividad Island, but is exactly the latitude of Isla Raza in the Gulf of California, and it seems probable that this latter island is really the place from which the type specimen of *Brachyramphus craverii* was obtained.

Craveri was seeking for guano, and Isla Raza is a guano island, while Natividad Island does not furnish any of this product. Salvadori speaks particularly of Craveri having found the Murrelet nesting under the rocks, which is exactly what *Brachyramphus craverii* does at the present time on Isla Raza. Salvadori speaks twice of the type specimen of his bird as having come from the Gulf of California.

From the above facts it seems probably that there has been a mistake in the type locality of *Brachyramphus craverii*. It is probable that Craveri visited both Natividad Island and Isla Raza, and that Salvadori has made a mistake as to which of these islands was the one on which Craveri obtained the type of his Murrelet, and that Isla Raza is the real type locality of *Brachyramphus craverii*.—WELLS W. COOKE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*